

At The Helm: Steering Hutto's Growth



City of Hutto
401 W. Front Street
Hutto, TX 78634
www.huttotx.gov

City's SmartCode and Downtown Plan Near Implementation

The Old Town Hutto Master Plan and SmartCode ordinance are near implementation. At the February 19th City Council meeting, the Council approved the first readings of the Old Town Hutto Master Plan and the SmartCode ordinance. The SmartCode will replace the current zoning standards in Old Town and will be applied to future development within the district.

Tremendous public involvement has been gathered over the past year, including several workshops focusing on the Old Town Hutto Master Plan, which has been a collaborative effort between the citizens, the development community, the City of Hutto and consultants ERO International and Gateway

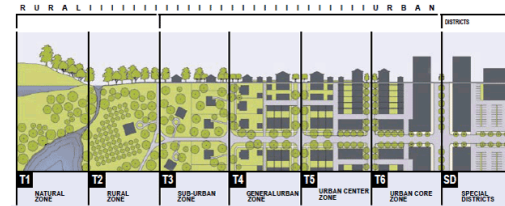
Planning Group. The Unified Development Code (UDC) / SmartCode charrette, which was an extremely interactive series of public workshops, was held during the week of November 3-6, 2008 and was hosted by consultants PlaceMakers, LLC and the City of Hutto.

Key to the approach of the PlaceMakers' consulting team was the creation of the SmartCode for areas targeted for new growth. The SmartCode is based on a theory that assigns rules based on appropriate development intensity for six "transect zones" (T-zones) going from the most rural to the most urban.

PlaceMakers code specialists, with help from the public and the Community

Development staff, customized a SmartCode with Hutto's unique traditions and citizen preferences in mind. To illustrate the application of SmartCode rules to an actual development project, PlaceMakers worked with a coalition of land owners during the charrette to master plan an 800-acre set of neighborhoods on the town's south side, known currently as the Shiloh Community. More information about the plans, drawings, and video interviews from the charrette can be found on www.gainingfromgrowth.com.

The second and final readings of the Old Town Master Plan and SmartCode ordinance will be held at the March 12th City Council meeting.



Hutto's Sales Tax Figures Up Despite Economic Downturn

While much of the country struggles through the current economic crisis, Central Texas continues to fair better as a result of the unprecedented population increase.

Consumer spending has decreased nationally; however, Hutto continues to post strong sales tax collection figures, in part, because of expanding retail opportunities. The opening of Walgreen's has kept Hutto's sales tax numbers

strong as residents are able to purchase many products within the City, avoiding sales tax leakage. Sales tax leakage occurs when residents look outside of town for products that they need. Making desirable goods and services available in Hutto keeps sales tax dollars within the community.

Surrounding cities of Austin, Round Rock, Taylor, and Georgetown have experienced decreases in

sales tax collections in recent months while Hutto and Pflugerville continue to see increases, thanks to expanding retail options.

Hutto's fiscal year-to-date collections are approximately 9% higher than collections at this time last year and 8% higher than projections.

	2007-08		2008-09		Difference	
	Actual		Estimate	Actual	\$ Amount	% Above Est.
October	\$ 107,609	\$	109,627	\$ 119,693	\$ 10,066	9.2%
November	\$ 254,992	\$	257,210	\$ 278,811	\$ 21,600	8.4%
December	\$ 374,715	\$	374,545	\$ 416,199	\$ 41,654	11.1%
January	\$ 471,089	\$	477,640	\$ 519,274	\$ 41,634	8.7%
February	\$ 607,863	\$	611,096	\$ 661,289	\$ 50,193	8.2%
March	\$ 707,314	\$	711,721		\$ (711,721)	-100.0%
April	\$ 793,951	\$	809,744		\$ (809,744)	-100.0%
May	\$ 937,778	\$	961,210		\$ (961,210)	-100.0%
June	\$ 1,054,199	\$	1,095,115		\$ (1,095,115)	-100.0%
July	\$ 1,170,784	\$	1,232,782		\$ (1,232,782)	-100.0%
August	\$ 1,315,516	\$	1,397,035		\$ (1,397,035)	-100.0%
September	\$ 1,443,929	\$	1,537,125		\$ (1,537,125)	-100.0%
% Y-T-D Increase over prior year	39.0%		0.5%	8.8%		

City Council Approves Agreement With Chamber of Commerce

Follow the City of Hutto on Twitter at www.Twitter.com/HuttoTX for all the latest information



Each year, the City sets aside approximately 1% of gross general fund revenues to grant financial assistance to other organizations that provide services to Hutto citizens. By working with other agencies, Hutto citizens are able to receive services not provided directly by the City at low costs. Outside Agency funding totals \$184,232 for Fiscal Year

2008-09.

On January 8, the City Council approved an Outside Agency Funding Agreement with the Hutto Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$32,000. The City and Chamber have formed a strong partnership over the years as the Chamber works hard to promote Hutto and attract new visitors.

Funding provided by the City is used for special events including Old Tyme Days, Old Tyme Christmas, Hutto Business Showcase, and more. The Chamber also acts as an information center for Hutto citizens and visitors and serves as a point of contact between the City and the business community.



City Submits Water/Wastewater Projects For Stimulus Package

The City submitted funding applications to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program. The program provides low interest funding options to public water systems. Federal grants could be available for "shovel ready" projects if an economic stimulus package is approved. Definitions from the TWDB define shovel ready projects as projects ready to begin construction within 90-120 days of approval.

The City submitted funding requests for the following projects:

FM 685 16" Waterline
Along Hutto High School -

\$265,000

Jonah Water Service
Transfer Tier II
(Northwest) - \$1,760,000

Submitting the funding application request is the first step in the Texas Water Development Board funding process. The TWDB will rank and prioritize projects in the coming months. The "Intended Use Plan" will be released this spring and will list projects by priority.

The City also submitted funding applications for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program. The CWSRF provides low interest funding options for wastewater

projects.

The following projects have been submitted:

Brushy Creek Wastewater
Interceptor - \$20,850,000

Front Street Wastewater
Interceptor - \$1,200,000

Current Wastewater Treatment Plant Purchase from the Lower Colorado River Authority - \$7,410,000

Applying for funding does not bind the City in anyway, but does keep the option of receiving state funding open.



City Unveils Household Hazardous Waste Program

City of Hutto residential garbage service customers who have household hazardous waste materials, such as old paint and used pool chemicals, have a free, safe way to dispose of them. Vouchers are now available through the City's Utility Billing Office, 401 W. Front Street,

to dispose of household hazardous waste at the Williamson County Recycle Center at 495 CR 156.

Customers must have an active City of Hutto utility account and will be required to present a photo ID when requesting the voucher. The voucher will

cover 100 percent of the disposal cost and will be valid for up to 30 days after issuance. The Williamson County Recycle Center will accept the voucher when disposing the items and submit the voucher to the City of Hutto for payment through the grant funds.

E-waste such as computer equipment and televisions are accepted at the Williamson County Recycle Center. These and other unwanted electronics are accepted free of charge at the Goodwill Store, located at 560 Highway 79 West. For more information on the Goodwill Store's electronic recycling program, check their website: www.austingoodwill.org/ebs/environmental.html

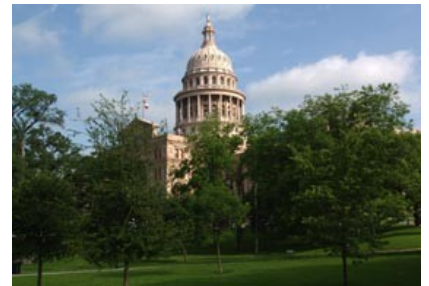
"Hutto Day" Planned For 2009 Texas Legislative Session

The City of Hutto will have its first ever legislative day at the State Capitol on Wednesday, April 1. Hutto delegates including officials from the City, ISD, Chamber of Commerce, the EDC and the Fire and Rescue, will kick off the day with a breakfast at the Capitol Grill with Senator Steve Ogden and Representative Diana Maldonado. Following breakfast, the delegates will visit the Senate and House where resolutions will be read acknowledging this special day. Delegates will then travel in

teams to each legislators office to present a memorable gift and a Conveniently Connected EDC magazine with legislative priorities and other handouts from each entity inserted in the enclosed flap. A reception is planned from 600—8:00 pm in the conference room of the State Capitol for members of the Legislature, their staff, Hutto delegates, event sponsors and any citizens who would like to attend. The event will be catered by Mario's, pies from the Texan Café and

beautiful flowering arrangements by Dragonfly. We plan to showcase Hutto as a dynamic community that is safe and stable, offering an outstanding quality of life with a comfortable blend of community and commerce, a smart place to do business with access to excellent educational opportunities ~ an incredible place to live, work and prosper!

If you would like additional information about Hutto Day, please contact Patti Gilmore at the City (759-4034).



1-4 ARB Unit Presents American Flag To Hutto

At a recent City Council meeting, Captain Pauletto and Sgt. Kincaid from the 1-4 ARB, Hutto's Adopted Unit out of Fort Hood, presented the community with an American flag which was flown over the skies of Baghdad, Iraq on a combat mission in support

of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The flag was presented on behalf of Delta Company, 1-4 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, Combat Aviation Brigade, 4ID. The flag has been preserved in a case and is proudly displayed in the council chambers in recog-

nition of our troops. A "Coming Home Party" is now being organized for the 1-4, which is expected home in early June. Anyone wishing to help out is encouraged to contact Patti Gilmore at City Hall, 759-4034.



Welcome to the City of Hutto, the fastest growing City in Texas! It is my pleasure to welcome you on behalf of our City Council, City Manager, and all of our City employees, who are dedicated to making this a quality community with a small town feel.

Our City continues to grow as new developments are put on the ground and new policies are established. Both will strengthen the City's ability to recruit new businesses and citizens, leading to greater economic stability and a prosperous future.

This last year was one of our finest as the City took home top honors from the Texas Municipal League, Government Finance Officers Association, and the Texas Association of Governmental Information Technology Managers. Each department continues to work hard to represent the City in a professional manner while remaining true to the City's Core Values of:

- Fairness
- Role-Modeling
- Open Communication
- Service
- Trust

The City Council and staff have worked hard to grow a quality community through leadership and teamwork initiatives. We have a great team of Council members and staff in place to make Hutto a great City. Our future is bright and exciting.

And Always Remember, Go Hutto Hippos!

Mayor Pro-Tem David F. Begier

Mayor Love Recognized With Chamber of Commerce Award

At the 2009 Hutto Chamber of Commerce Banquet, held on Friday February 26, Mayor Kenneth L. Love received the first annual Kenneth L. Love Meritorious Service Award in recognition of an elected official or employee of the City of Hutto that demonstrates a spirit of caring, service to others, passion for the community and overall excellence as an exceptional leader.

From his early service in the United States Air Force to his recent time on the Hutto City Council, Ken has always served those in need. Ken's first years in Hutto were spent learning about the community and how he could be of assistance. He was a dedicated member of various Hutto community organizations and city boards, commissions, committees.

He was elected as a Council member in May 2004, Mayor in 2006, and re-elected as Mayor in May 2008. During his tenure, Hutto was recognized as the fastest growing city in Texas and he led the Council in creating the 2030 Strategic Map, which provides direction for the growth of the Hutto community during the next 25 years.

One of the greatest accomplishments of Ken Love came when he realized the children and adults of Hutto deserved a common place for learning and sharing ideas. He started a coalition of local citizens who knew a library was one of the most important assets a community can have and formed the Hutto Library Committee. They were able to secure a location for the future library and worked with the City to see their dream become a reality. In April 2008, the Hutto Public Library opened its doors to the community and provides education and entertainment to hundreds of Hutto residents on a daily basis.

We are proud of his achievements as both our Mayor and as a person. Ken is truly a role model as a citizen and a leader that inspires greatness and excellence in others and in our community. Please join our citizens in extending congratulations, gratitude and support to Mayor Love and his family.

City of Hutto
401 W. Front Street
Hutto, TX 78634
www.huttotx.gov

Where to go for more information:

- > **Hutto Highlights** — weekly e-newsletter
- > **Hutto Today** — monthly community newsletter
- > **Daily Blotter** — daily police activities report
- > **Subscription information on the City's newsletters & more can be found at huttotx.gov**

City Earns Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

The City of Hutto has earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the third consecutive year from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). The award represents a significant achievement by the City. It reflects the commitment of the City Council and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity must satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation.

These guidelines are designed to assess how well the City's budget serves as:

- a policy document
- a financial plan
- an operations guide
- a communications device

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories to receive the award.